

University honors black students' achievements

MATTHEW BERRY
Chief Reporter | @thematthewberry

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be holding its second annual Celebration of Success to honor the achievement of black students.

The event is for black students who are graduating this month. Coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion Adam Gonzalez said this invitational event is for these students to be recognized for completing their time at Northwest

The event includes a keynote speaker as well as a kente stole given to students to celebrate their accomplishments.

people in Ghana and it's a recognition of the historical adversity that students of color have faced, black students in particular in this country," Gonzalez said.

The idea of the kente stole came from Director of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett.

"The kente stole is very significant with our African students and it's also with our black students, especially through the concepts of black student unions and black student organization," Mallett said. "The kente stole and the Kente cloth and the colors that are represented in there represent various different components of life."

“Gold is status serenity, green is renewal, the blue in there is pure spirit harmony, the red is passion and the black is union with your ancestors and spiritual awareness,”
-Justin Mallett, faculty

"There is a celebration of success where we recognize the achievements of our graduating students of color, specifically our black students, and we do that through the presentation of the kente stoles," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said that these stoles are a tribute to black student's heritage.

"(The Kente Stoles) goes back to African heritage to the Ashanti

Civic Service gives back during holidays

SAMANTHA COLLISON
Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

Student Senate's Civic Service committee ran a food drive and supported four community outreach events this month.

While food drives for the Bearcat Food Pantry have been organized before, the Civic Service Committee started a competition for on-campus organizations to earn points with donations this year.

Alpha Sigma Alpha won the competition and will have its name engraved on the trophy, which will be displayed in the Student Senate chambers or the Office of Student Involvement. Donations were collected on the second floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union during lunchtime Nov. 27-30.

Civic Service Chair Arpana Pokhrel said they didn't meet their donation goal, but she said the timing wasn't ideal because of Thanksgiving break followed by a snow day, and they hope to have a better result in coming years.

"I think it's a great start," Pokhrel said. "The idea we initially came up with, I think we're proud of. We are planning to continue it in the future, and I think it could happen better, but some help is better than no help."

Civic Service Vice Chair Drake Summers said besides collecting donations, one of the goals of the food drive was to destigmatize the use of the Bearcat Food Pantry.

"Not many people are super comfortable talking about needs they have, finding resources, and it's just unfair to the people that need it," Summers said. "Also, it just doesn't make a whole lot of sense, because it's just easier to help people."

Summers said the committee's goal for the semester was to partner with campus and community organizations to improve existing philanthropy events rather than creat-



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman Class Representative Hannah Enneking and Civic Service Chair Arpana Pokhrel set up a display encouraging students to make contributions for Ben's Stocking of Hope Nov. 29 in the J.W. Jones Student Union.

ing multiple new events. The committee used part of its \$5,000 budget to support four groups.

Civic Service Committee partnered with the Maryville Children and Family Center to adopt four Maryville families and provide Christmas gifts for the nine children in those families.

"In some instances, it (adopting a family) provides the experience that people associate with the holiday season," Summers said. "It may be kind of vain to say that getting a present for Christmas is an expectation, but when you're one of the few kids in a group that don't have those same experiences, that can kind of stink."

The committee also partnered with Maryville Public Schools to provide hygiene items and school supplies at Maryville High School for students in need.

The committee paid for catering for Sigma Kappa's trip Dec. 1 to the Noyes Home for Children in St. Joseph, Missouri. In previous years, Sigma Kappa partnered with Phi Sigma Kappa for this event, but Phi Sigma Kappa was suspended this year, so the Civic Service Committee stepped in to support the event.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Debrielle Merrill of Alpha Sigma Alpha voices her concerns in the form of a question to the University's panel members during the Student Organization Conduct Policy Informational Forum held Nov. 28 in the J.W. Jones Student Union. The proposed policy has since been redrafted with updates after the University heard several main points of concern from students regarding the proposed policy.

Policy revised following student feedback

RACHEL ADAMSON
Campus News Editor | @racheladamsonxi

An updated Student Organization Conduct Policy draft was sent out to student leaders Dec. 3 for review and feedback.

The updated proposed policy was sent in an email from the Vice President of Student Affairs Matt Baker.

The proposed Student Organization Conduct policy outlines the University's behavioral expectations to all formally recognized student organizations. It also provides a structure for addressing policy vi-

olations, binding all organizations to be treated equitably and held to the same rules and policy.

The proposed Student Organization Conduct Policy was first sent out to student leaders Nov. 7, resulting in many students and student leaders voicing concerns and opposition to the proposed policy.

In response to the considerable amount of student reaction, the University hosted several meetings to hear out student concerns over the past three weeks. Based off of these student concerns, the University resolved to update the proposed policy.

Nine major concerns voiced by students are addressed in the updated policy.

The addressed concerns are components of sanctions, student representation on the panel, student representation on the appeal board, double jeopardy, amnesty for organizations, individual accountability within organizations, roles of Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council and Student Senate, representation of National Panhellenic Council and too much power in the process for the vice president of student affairs.

"We've wanted this process to be interactive since we started this process back in September," Baker said. "I regret that students don't feel like they were heard or included but I think we have gone through a good process to make sure that their voices and their concerns are heard."

Student Senate President Alysa Lincoln has been a prominent figure in helping to voice students concerns out about the proposed policy. Lincoln said the large-scale student concerns have either been addressed within the redraft of the proposed policy or with Baker directly.

"I think it is clear that students' voices have been heard. The first draft of the policy we saw is vastly different from the second draft of the policy we have received," Lincoln said. "These changes were not made for any other reason other than student input and student concern. Regarding this policy and this movement, it has been the clearest and powerful display of the gravity of students voices that I have seen in my time here."

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The Career Closet open house was Nov. 28. The Career Closet consist of two rooms full of clothing items, shoes and jewelry.

Clothing student dreams

Career Closet opens, provides free attire for students

CAMERON MONTEMAYOR
Chief Reporter | @NPNNowMontemayor

Northwest recently held an official opening for a space offering students fresh and free attire.

Career Closet is a set of two rooms located in North Complex providing students with professional dress clothing, primarily for job interviews and other school functions like Career Fair.

Initially planned as a ribbon-cutting ceremony, an open house was eventually decided on for the Career Closet.

The event saw top Northwest officials like Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Juanita Simmons, Provost Jamie Hooyman and President John Jasinski in attendance.

Career Services Director of Partnerships and Placement Jill Brown, a key figure in getting the room up and running, was amazed by the rapid development the Career Closet has had.

“We’ve only been having these discussions for what, like 40 days? And it already looks this awesome with this many donations,” Brown said. “We immediately had to add a second room because of all the clothes.”

Brown and Career Services got involved with Career Closet after Brown mentioned in a presentation the idea of a clothing room for students, a project that had already been started by behavioral sciences instructor Sarah Creason and Hor-

ace Mann teacher Meghan Sheil.

“Someone immediately connected me with Meghan and Sarah,” Brown said. “It’s one of those things where many hands make light work. It runs now because so many of us are involved.”

One person in attendance at the Career Closet open house was senior Makinlin Webster, who found out about Career Closet from Sheil while working at the Phyllis and Richard Leet Center.

“She was very excited about it, and I was excited to check out what she’s done,” Webster said.

The trip to Career Closet was a particularly important one for Webster, as both she and her boyfriend are starting new jobs in the next month.

“It’s a really great opportunity,” Webster said. “It’s nice that we have this option on campus so that way we don’t have to go out and spend a whole bunch of money as seniors in college, people that are still kind of struggling.”

Webster said she’s happy to see the Career Closet come to fruition and have it earn the success that it has.

“There’s a lot of really nice men’s dress clothes,” Webster said. “I got some ties, so it was nice.”

Jasinski called the Career Closet a “tremendous” opportunity for Northwest students, noting the potential for growth was just as exciting.

Brown agreed, saying with many students needing clothes who don’t know about the room, Career Closet should see continued growth

in attendance and size.

“Every time a student shops, it’s always wonderful,” Brown said. “There were two gentlemen in there and they asked how much it was and when I said it was free, the look on their faces was priceless.”

Brown said that while she envisioned the Career Closet remaining a fixture on campus, a likely increase in visitors will mean a need for more space, giving students more options and increasing the number of clothing items.

“I don’t know if this is the right space. We may need another room so that way we could have pants in one room, for instance, or we get a lot of shoes and figure how to display those,” Brown said.

She said that with the number of shoppers not fully determined yet, other aspects of the room like opening times will remain by appointment only.

“We’re still trying to figure out how often do we open, when do we open, whether or not set hours would be a good idea,” Brown said.

With increased media coverage following Career Closet’s first few openings, Brown said the number of people wanting to donate increased soon after.

“It’s incredibly empowering from the sense that people stop by all of the time that we don’t even know to drop off donations who had just read articles about it,” Brown said. “They immediately wanted to give back to students.”



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Behavioral sciences instructor Sarah Creason sorts a box of donated clothing items in the Career Closet Dec. 4. Creason is one of the many involved in bringing the Career Closet project idea to life.

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Shirtless Bearcats was among three student organizations recognized at Student Senate's weekly meeting Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Student Senate recognizes Shirtless Bearcats

SAMANTHA COLLISON
Chief Reporter | @sammiellison

Student Senate elected two senators and recognized three student organizations during its meeting Tuesday.

Student Senate elected Jacob Barnes and TJ Johnson to fill the two senior class representative positions that will be vacant next semester after Senior Class President Megan Carter and Senior Class Representative Estella Wesseh graduate.

Four people were nominated on the Student Senate floor last week, but two dropped out. Both candidates will be senators next semester, and whoever received more votes will be the senior class president. The executive cabinet did not announce the numbers at the meeting.

Barnes is a Mass Media: Broadcast Production major and has held various positions on Student Senate since his freshman year. He was previously a voting member, but this semester he was not.

"I think it (being a voting member) gives you, not necessarily more power as some may see it, but you put a little more into this," Barnes said. "Everyone can dis-

cuss, but to actually have a say in what happens, what money goes where, what organizations can be on campus, it really means something, and it's beneficial to grow as a leader."

Johnson is an Elementary Education and Multicultural Studies major. He has not been on Student Senate before and joined the Student Activities Council this semester, but he said he tried to attend or watch every Student Senate meeting this semester.

"I've always been interested in Student Senate," Johnson. "It means a lot to be able to represent students and be able to fight on behalf of students as well."

Student Senate recognized Shirtless Bearcats as a student organization. Shirtless Bearcats is a group of students who paint their torsos with words and phrases at football games.

The organization was previously a recognized student organization, but failed to re-register and had to come before Student Senate to be recognized again.

Shirtless Bearcats Vice President Nolan Brooks said the group sought to become a recognized student organization again with the goal of expanding the organization

to attend more sporting events and include more members.

"Something that I've noticed about the club over the last three years is it's really the same little group of people at every single game," Brooks said. "I want to really open it up to anyone to come."

Student Senate recognized Northwest Trap Shooters as an official student organization. Trap shooting is shotgun exhibition shooting with clay pigeons and shells filled with BB pellets. The group hopes to participate in regional competitions and also create a community to learn more about shooting and gun safety.

Northwest Trap Shooters President Wyatt Ellis said the group would be a recruiting tool for the University since many high schools in the midwest have trap shooting teams and the students want to continue shooting in college.

One of the major concerns brought up by multiple senators was safety, especially with including members with no shooting experience.

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NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

Students among national leaders

CAMERON MONTEMAYOR
Chief Reporter | @NPNOWMontemayor

After placing ninth and 21st in a national cybersecurity competition, the success of two groups of students is paving the way for Northwest's cybersecurity program.

In mid-November, a group of students comprised of Cole Houston, Dave Chen, Daniel FAVOR, Brad Taylor and Andrew Proctor placed ninth out of 54 teams in the gold division and 10th overall out of 368 teams in the National Cyber League competition.

The second group of Jesse Reed, Jack Hill, Zane Salam, Michael Baumli, Vitaliy Tsytysy placed 21st out of 189 teams in the bronze division and 130th overall.

The virtual group competition was a marathon-like experience according to computer science Professor Scott Bell, who teaches many cybersecurity-related courses.

"They started Friday at noon, and they were in and out of there pretty consistently until 8 p.m. on Sunday," Bell said. "It basically wiped out an entire weekend."

For students like junior Houston, taking part in cybersecurity competitions is a valuable experience allowing students to work on a variety of complex problems in real-world scenarios.

After participating in the competition for the first time last spring, Houston said the groups were confident but prepared for the next opportunity.

"It exposed me to a lot of new and difficult things I hadn't done before," Houston said. "I'm really happy with the placement we got."

Houston envisioned working for the FBI initially but altered his plans after taking a course in computer science - a very similar field to cybersecurity.

"It's a field that you need to be very passionate about to stay in, because everything is moving so fast," Houston said. "If you want to be in this field, you constantly have to do research."

Hoping to one day open his own cybersecurity business, Houston has recently been specializing in reverse engineering and binary hacking, which entails designing exploits capable of manipulating software in certain technology.

Houston said the latest cybersecurity competition was the culmination of a nearly two-month-long, three-part competition con-

sisting of a pre-season, regular season and group project postseason.

"It turned out really well," Houston said. "I couldn't have asked for a better team on that because we complemented each other's strengths."

With the complexity and time-consuming nature of cybersecurity, the group project for the post-season competition allowed more work to be completed.

"That's really what they were focused on because individually they're scattered all over the place," Bell said. "It's hard to find a lot of time in a student's life to think about a problem for three hours."

After working at Northwest from 2007 to 2010, Bell returned in 2014, aware of the emerging field of cybersecurity.

"Writing security code is critical, and it's not being talked about a lot," Bell said. "You see every day a company gets hacked and loses millions or billions of dollars, so they have to hire people to take care of this."

Bell added there are thousands of cybersecurity-related jobs that organizations and companies are needing to fill.

Like many of the state's collegiate cybersecurity programs, which are still in their infancy, places like Northwest are catching up.

What started off as a network security class for graduate students in 2014 eventually branched out into other security-related courses and the cybersecurity club.

"They've done an incredible job. They worked really hard. They were awarded the best student organization at the University," Bell said. "But they're self-motivated, those guys that have put a lot of effort into building the cyber defense club and meeting every week, having a plan."

Bell said many of the students were learning things that extended well beyond class material, commending them for their level of self-motivation.

Houston said he took eight online cybersecurity courses over the last summer alone in addition to extra cyber defense club meetings.

"It's a field where you can't learn everything in a class; it's such a broad field," Houston said.

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OUR VIEW:

Arguable policy is needed for all students

The Northwest Board of Regents will take a vote on the proposed Student Organization Conduct Policy in its meeting Dec. 13. Since it was released to students in September, the policy has gone through several redrafts. It is now in the final stages of revision.

In the first drafts of this policy, students found and voiced several points of concerns. Those concerns were campus strict probation sanctions, the possibility of double jeopardy, no amnesty and unequal representation on the student conduct board.

Since then, the University has redrafted the policy and have changed the language in the policy to address these concerns.

Despite the controversy surrounding this policy, it is necessary both for the University and its organizations. Northwest needs these protections in place as a risk miti-

gation factor and student organizations should all be held to the same standards and required to follow the same rules.

In the end, it is up to the Northwest Board of Regents to determine what is best for the University.

Each member of the Board has been appointed by the Governor’s office and approved by the Missouri Senate. Each member of the Board and University administration shares the task of holding the University’s vision to the highest regard. A part of this process is seeking input from students.

If the policy passes, it is because the board feels the final draft fulfills the interest of the University and Northwest.

This proposed Student Organization Conduct Policy creates a universal standard for discipline on the student organization side of things. Without it, the University is at risk.

Santa lie is no cause for alarm, helps imagination



People will argue that parents should never lie to their children about anything, not even when it comes to Santa Claus. I believe children are better off experiencing all of the “magic” of Christmas and the mysteries it brings.

While usually lying to children is not something to be praised, there is an exception when it comes to stimulating their imagination and reinforcing the saying “believing without seeing.”

Children believe in legends purely and wholeheartedly with the help of adults.

They’re the ones who leave money for children under their pillow, hide plastic eggs with sweet treats inside and put gifts under Christmas trees. They are the childhood dreams and traditions parents uphold for the sake of their child known as the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny and Santa.

Good old Saint Nicholas is there to guide children to be nice to others around them while also encouraging them to seek out the truth behind his miraculous works and deliveries around the world in one night.

For many adults, some of their fondest childhood memories revolved around various celebrations and events.

The fantasy of a large, pot-bellied man with rosy cheeks and a snow-white beard provides many children with memories full of laughter, excitement and anticipation.

Even though Santa and other select myths are lies, they are never done maliciously and for most children, they don’t really have a negative reaction to the harmless

lie and never really lose their trust for their parents.

According to Vanessa LoBue, associate professor of psychology at Rutgers University-Newark, on average, children learn the truth behind Santa around seven years old. For most of them, when they found out, rather than being devastated by the secret, they took it generally well.

Children are always developing, and eventually, they’ll get past the stage where their sources of information expand beyond the authority of parents.

The Santa ruse is not simply for children either, it is often times fun for parents to participate in.

According to “Child Psychiatry and Human Development,” a study was done on how children reacted to learning the truth about Santa along with parent’s reactions. Through an interview and questionnaire, it was found that children had relatively positive reactions while parents generally were sad their children no longer believed.

To deny children this simple pleasure can also keep parents from enjoying certain aspects of being a parent.

For many, Santa can bring that extra magic families need for the winter season.

The idea of Santa becomes a conduit for many children to develop their sense of reality, a taste of curiosity and wonderment.

This not only goes for Santa, but all other childhood myths parents and children look forward to.

Having good food, merry times with family members and possibly celebrating various aspects of their religious beliefs is the essence of the Christmas spirit. This includes the jolly old man with a hearty laugh and a bellowing, “Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.”

Turmoil among 2018, effects will be felt in upcoming new year



It is that time of year in which all people look back on the events of 2018 and reflect on what it has meant to them and what 2019 bring.

If I had to describe 2018 in one word it would be turmoil. Turmoil unfolded in all fields from economics to pop culture and it can encompass so many things that have happened not only to those of us here in Missouri but those all over the world.

This turmoil has ranged from the devastating wildfires in California to the constant craziness that is the U.S. federal government. It has been a year constantly filled with breaking news notifications and destruction on so many levels not only here in the United States but also all around the world, including but not limited to the Russians doping their athletes prior to the Winter Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

Another thing that has influenced 2018 is the number of pop culture icons that have passed away during this year. The deaths of Stan Lee, Stephen Hillenburg and Isao Takahata have resulted in people re-

flecting upon how much their various fandoms have played in their lives and how it influenced who they became while growing up.

For myself, the death of Stan Lee had a major impact on my life and made me realize that without Stan and Marvel Comics I would not be the person I am today.

He inspired me with the notion that not all heroes wear capes and it has helped to set me on the path that I am on today. To become a teacher. There is a quote of Lee’s that really has stuck with me and it is from his cameo in “Spiderman 3” when he talks to Peter Parker in Times Square.

“You know, I guess one person really can make a difference,” Lee said. “‘Nuff said.”

This quote has inspired me on so many levels and it is hard to go into another year without him. He played such an integral role in my development that without it I would not be the person that I am today.

While celebrity deaths have been rather numerous this year, I would be negligent if I did not mention politics and the influence it has on how 2018 has played out and how the American people are preparing to enter 2019.

The midterm election resulted in a major win for the Democrats as they retook the House of Repre-

sentatives and diversity also got a major win.

In an article from Time Magazine, 114 million people got out and voted in this election which is a major increase from the 83 million people that voted in the 2014 midterms.

This year has also seen a number of scandals for the White House ranging from the accusations against Judge Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation process to the incessant amount of Tweets flying out of the White House and on to all of our phones.

As a person who tries to stay on top of everything going on in the federal government, this was one year that was constantly changing with the rotating staff and scandals being reported by the local news.

While 2018 may have been a year full of turmoil, I am still left with a sense of hope for what will happen going forward.

Even with certain events this year, it has not stopped me from continuing on with a renewed sense of hope and anticipation for whatever may happen in the future. This year may be coming to a close but its effects will be with us for a while and I hope that the new year brings us continued joy and success in whatever we strive to do.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Students should learn all year, not nine months

Dear Editor,

Getting out of college, most students are faced with a pile of debt that seems to be never-ending. One way to cut down on the cost of college, get out of college fast and into the working field sooner, is to finish college in just a few short years. How do you do that? Year-round schooling. Not only does this help students finish their degree faster with less debt, it helps students retain knowledge as well as utilize the school facilities to keep them in good working shape throughout the summer months.

Multiple colleges throughout the U.S. have already gone to a year-round calendar and have seen improvement in students as well as keeping their buildings well kept. Year-round schooling has more breaks throughout their semesters, according to the California Department of Education, which will help eliminate the stress of schoolwork and allow time for students to work throughout the semester. The schedule will allow for regular holiday breaks as well as little ones. This also allows teachers to get grades in and plan for future lectures. The great thing with these breaks is the vacation time can be used differently and more creatively.

Colleges such as Carrington College and Purdue College have already provided a program for year-round education. University of Purdue’s has increased by 40 percent since 2012, and first year students starting during the summer has increased by 700 percent since 2015. This helps the graduation rates increase while helping students accelerate their time for

degree completion. Credits taken by students have increased by 47 percent since 2012. First-year student retention rate has increased by almost 80 percent for students when they attend the year-round program according to the Department of Computer Science.

University of Mary has year-round schooling that has a focus on the growing problems in higher education: rising costs, extended time to completion and growing student loan debt. This school shows that you can receive your bachelor’s degree in two and a half years and a master’s in four. While attending a normally-scheduled college, you receive a bachelor’s in four years and an extra one and a half to two years to get your master’s on top of that.

Cutting down on years in school will cut down on the debt costs that you will have to pay afterwards because the cost would be cut down, spreading through three semesters instead of two, as well as you would only be in school two years instead of four. This allows students to jump into their field of study faster, giving them the opportunity to start paying off debts faster because students would only have six semesters to pay off instead of eight semesters. University of Mary also offers many school jobs for students that want to work but also attend class. University of Mary reduces the cost for room by 1/3 as well as offer many scholarships that follow students into the summer. Once you graduate you will enter the workforce sooner, meaning you’ll have a jump into society faster than other students.

Another point that many don’t

think about is the use of the facilities during the summer months. When summer rolls around, the facilities are not in use. This puts stress on the maintenance crew who keep the buildings in good shape for when August rolls around for the students to be back in school to use them. Having students in the building year-round utilizes these facilities effectively. California Department of Education states that using the facilities keeps them in good shape. This allows students to learn in environments that are up to date as well in good working shape.

One obvious reason why year-round schooling is a great option to think about is the benefit of retaining information. According to Oxford Learning, students can lose up to 2.6 months of information during summer break. Teachers take a few weeks each semester to grab students’ attention and reteach subjects again.

According to Carrington College, it’s easier to stay in the groove than to take three months off. This also helps students prepare for their careers by showing that they won’t be able to take three months off from their job during the summer. Not only will students retain knowledge but they will also excel at their studies and further their information intake. Attending a school with year-round schooling allows that knowledge to stay intact without suffering through trying to relearn subjects or facts. According to The Century Foundation, it did a study that showed year round education had more frequent, smaller breaks with a positive effect on students.

Sincerely,
Brooke Wehrbein

STAFF

NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

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Minimum wage set to increase

KATIE STEVENSON
Community news editor | @KatieSStevenson

MATTHEW BERRY
Chief Reporter | @TheMatthewBerry

In 2019 Missouri will see minimum wage increase to \$8.60 an hour.

This increase comes after Missouri voters passed Proposition B during the November midterm elections. This proposition will gradually increase Missouri minimum wage to \$12 an hour by 2023, rising 85 cents each year.

Nodaway County Ambulance District Director of Operations Bill Florea said the raise could start taking effect in three or four years and would impact them greatly.

“On our professional staff, it probably isn’t going to affect us as much because they are going to already be over that,” Florea said. “I guess if we were to adjust their wages accordingly by 2022, and we give everyone that four dollar raise, that will be a big impact, that would be like \$5,000. Just the full-time staff that would cost around \$110,000. That would be about \$8,632 per employee by that year (2022).”

According to the National Employment Law Project, 677,000 workers, living in all of Missouri’s counties and the city of St. Louis, will see the benefits of a higher wage. NELP projects that by 2023, each worker will earn an average of \$1,485 more annually.

Florea said the increase would affect a lot of different things for workers, not just raise their salary.

“But it is not just that it impacts, there are other things based on your wages such as workers’ comp, some of our insurances, retirement is also based on it,” Florea said. “So, it is not just one piece, not just the wag-

Minimum wage changes in Missouri

1 in 4

Missouri workers will earn approx. \$1,485 more annually



85¢ increase per year until 2023



\$12/per hour goal

SOURCE: NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT

DESIGN: TAYLOR GONNERMAN

es, security withholdings and all of that will be impacted.”

Florea said he has numerous concerns surrounding the increase especially since the ambulance district current struggles to make money.

“We only get so many taxes and that is my concern is if that starts pulling away what will happen,” Florea said. “Ours is pretty much a

break-even budget from year to year and even some years we don’t break even; we have enough reserves to make up those differences.

Florea said one of his main concerns about how the increase will directly affect him and the ambulance district as their main source of income is from taxes.

“We’re funding on sales tax, and as you see more and more of

those go away and more people buying online and not going to the brick and mortar stores, you still have to pay people wages in your area, provide jobs, pay taxes, and that concerns me.”

Florea said he believes a lot of the services the district offers will have to increase in order to compensate for the rise of wages.

“I think what you will see is

an increase in the price of ambulances. Our wheelchair van fee, we haven’t raised the price of that since it’s been in service from the ‘90s; we absorb that loss because it provides a needed service,” Florea said. “I do see those fees having to go up to stay viable because if you start losing money you’ve got to increase your funds or we are not going to remain viable.”

CELEBRATION CONTINUED FROM A1

Gonzalez pointed out that America is not too far removed from a time where segregation was an issue in schools.

“When you look back, we are not too far beyond the times when black students were not allowed in colleges and universities,” Gonz-

lez said. “Segregation is something that many people still alive today went through.”

Gonzalez also stressed the importance of showing students that successful individuals can be like the students.

“For some students, it’s important to see successful people who look like them,” Gonzalez said. “If you watch TV or if you walk into

some corporate office and you don’t see people who look like you, it inherently leads you to believe you can’t achieve any of those positions that you see.”

One of the struggles black students faced, as explained by Mallett, is the demographics of Northwest, with black students making up only 13 percent of Northwest’s student population.

“We are on a predominantly white campus and we have an un-

derrepresented population that goes through a lot of the things our majority students also have to experience as well, but studies show and research shows that adjustment, transition, persistence and retention are greatly affected by or with our minority students which are black students which are on a predominantly white campus,” Mallett said.

Mallett hopes that this ceremony will help students realize that these students overcame those struggles.

“I want them to know we do recognize their academic achievement,” Mallett said. “For a lot of these students, they are the first one to graduate from their family. Being able to have a ceremony where they can obtain their kente stole and be acknowledged for their academic achievement and their personal assistance, is something that we should be doing every year on this campus.”

APPROPRIATIONS

\$1,500 was appropriated to the African Student Organization

Blotters for the week of Dec. 6

Maryville Public Safety

Nov. 13

There is an ongoing investigation for fraud at the 400 block of East Second Street.

Nov. 16

A summons was issued to **Dominick Cravens**, 18, from Richmond, Missouri, for possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to maintain the right half of the roadway at the 100 block of West Lieber Street.

Nov. 17

A summons was issued to **Jackson Barnes**, 22, for possession of drug paraphernalia at the 700 block of West Seventh Street.

A summons was issued to **Jacob Kelow**, 24, for possession of marijuana at the 700 block of West Seventh Street.

Nov. 20

A summons was issued to **Tyler Paris**, 16, for speeding at

the 900 block of East Seventh Street.

A summons was issued to **Jeevan Veeramachanei**, 22, for driving while intoxicated and speeding at the 300 block of North Main Street.

Nov. 25

A bicycle was recovered at the 1100 block of South Main Street.

Nov. 28

A summons was issued to **Issi-aha Keegel**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Joseph Everhart**, 28, from Skidmore, Missouri, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

Nov. 29

A summons was issued to **Carl Carlson**, 37, from Ravenwood,

Missouri for careless and imprudent driving at the 1200 block of South Main Street.

Nov. 30

A firearm was recovered at the 200 block of East Third Street.

Dec. 1

A ring was recovered at the 200 block of East Third Street.

Dec. 2

A license plate was recovered at the 600 block of North Buchanan Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny at the 300 block of North Market Street.

Dec. 3

A summons was issued to **Megan Gaertner**, 27, for displaying the plates of another and failure to register a motor vehicle at the 100 block of East Thompson Street.

University Police Department

Nov. 25

There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation at Roberta Hall.

Dec. 1

There is an ongoing investigation for fraudulent use of a credit card at an unknown location.

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JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Drake Summers can often be in the Office of Student Involvement where he spends much of his free time. Summers said he wanted to become involved on campus to serve the student body, saying, “It doesn’t take someone special to do something special.”

Drake Summers

Bearcat senior gives back to students

CORIE HERTZOG
A&E Editor | @CofeeGilmore97

Senior Drake Summers, a human services and psychology double major, can often be spotted in the Office of Student Involvement. His trademark long-sleeved shirts and Northwest ambassador pullover and blond whiskers along his cheeks and chin make him easy to spot. He grew up in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, a small town northeast of Kansas City. However, one word drives his life and passion: charity. “I think everyone is meant to serve a purpose and when you find what your purpose is, you just gotta run with it,” Summers said. “For me, I feel like my purpose is to help those who need it.” His roommate and childhood friend, senior T.J. Johnson, an elementary education and multicultural studies double major, witnessed Summers work from the ground up. “We grew up together,” Johnson said. “I’ve known him for forever. One thing I’ve always known about him is he is a kind and giving soul. He’s someone who always looks out for other people.” The difference between charity

and philanthropy is often blurred. Philanthropy is a long-term commitment, often to one organization. Charity is often a short-term commitment. “We both took on leadership roles in high school, and I got to see him excel,” Johnson said. “We formed projects on student council, and he was the one forefronting everything, and I was his little wingman that would help him through the process. But he would just continue to grow and he and Garrett Niemier are one of the big reasons I transferred here from Missouri State after my freshman year.” Student Senate President and biology psychology senior Alyssa Lincoln quickly took notice. “First off, his smile is contagious,” Lincoln said. “He’s one of the most light-hearted, kindest, selfless people I’ve ever met. He’s always been one of my favorite Bearcat leaders.” Summers is the oldest of four siblings, having two brothers and a sister, and considers his parents to be his strongest support system. He credits his mother with his passion for helping others and help-

ing define his future career path. “I have plans to work with adults with disabilities in employment situations, like getting them jobs, developing work training,” Summers said. “That’s what I came here to do and when human services became a program here at Northwest, I became immediately interested. I grew up around shelter workshops, which are employment opportunities for adults with disabilities. My mom does programming for a shelter workshop, and I’ve worked with that population my whole life.” For Summers, he finds happiness in the joy of helping disabled adults. “I love being around them,” Summers said. “I love seeing them be happy and fulfilled. There is this simplistic idea that adults with disabilities don’t need the same things out of life that your ‘Average Joe’ does, so work is important to everyone. Seeing someone else being fulfilled is so cool.” Summers translated his love of charity from his major to his campus involvement. He is the civic service chair of Student Senate, the

president-elect of Student Activities Council and a student ambassador for the University. “I’ve devoted most of my time to Student Activities Council,” Summers said. “It’s something that immediately spoke to me. I’m pretty confident in my abilities, always have been, and was looking for a way to showcase things on a bigger scale and to use my skills to bring something really fun and cool to students.” His work does not go unnoticed. “I’m fortunate enough to be his roommate,” Johnson said. “I see him working on Student Senate. I see him working on SAC, and I see him working on any opportunity to benefit students. There really isn’t a moment where Drake isn’t working, so that is what I consider to be his biggest charitable work.” To Johnson, it’s Summers’ passion that sets him apart. “With the job he has for the student ambassador, he works with students to share his passion,” Johnson said. “His heart is here, at Northwest.” Summers takes pride in his work, both socially and academically.

“I think, in general, it’s a real accomplishment to be involved in organizations and do well academically,” Summers said. “That’s something I’ve always been proud of myself for doing. Being able to find involvement, and being really involved, and be a student too.” Summers’ position as a civic service chair on Student Senate has given him an outlet to introduce Northwest students to local philanthropies and charities, such as Adopt-A-Family and Ben’s Stocking of Hope. “He’s had a lot of big successes,” Johnson said. “He’s served on Student Activities Council for four years as an executive member and to me, that is such a charitable thing he does. Yes, there is a small scholarship, but it’s not worth the time you put in. He does it on behalf of the students.” Summers is scheduled to graduate in May 2019. “His willingness to help others is his big legacy,” Johnson said. “But also his resilience, that’s a word I would describe him with: resilient.” To Lincoln, Summers can be summed up in one word. “Selfless,” Lincoln said. “I would describe him as selfless.”



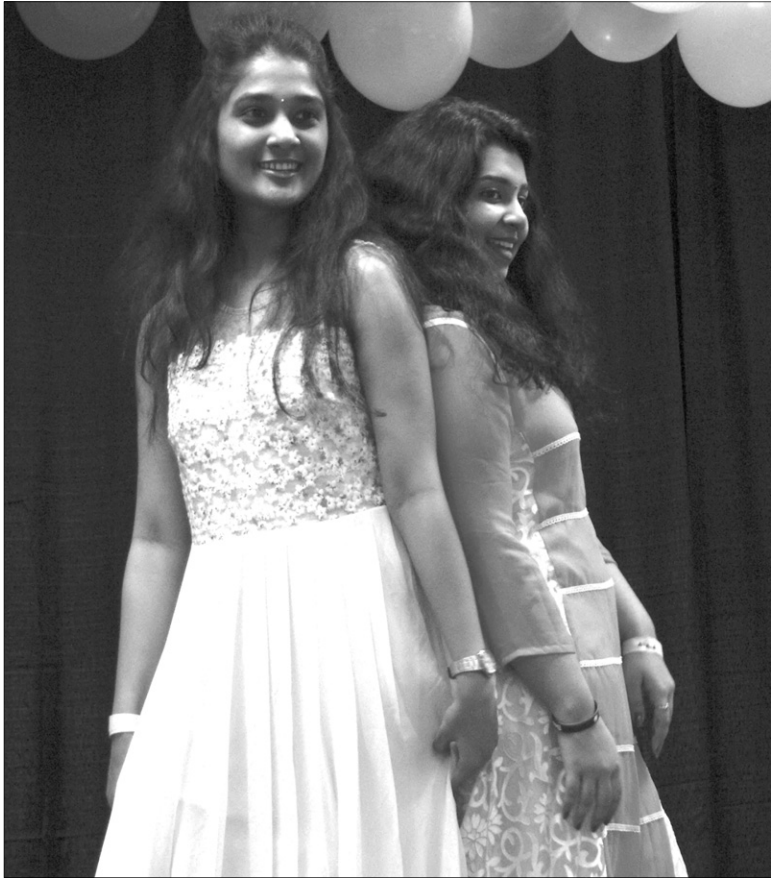
HAILEY HOWARD | TOWER
Drake Summers, sponsored by Student Activities Council, alongside Megan Carter of Sigma Sigma Sigma, were selected as 2018 Homecoming royalty candidates.



FILE PHOTO
Drake Summers is known for having a dry sense of humor and says he loves to laugh at himself and that it’s important to have a sense of humor to get through life.

Students present culture

Indian Student Association dinner provides food, education



SARAH VON SEGGERN | NW MISSOURIAN
Kotyada Durga Sushmitha and Kattakola Nishika dance in one of several performances given during the Indian Student Association's annual dinner Dec. 1.

SARAH VON SEGGERN
Asst. A&E Editor | @SeggernSarah

Despite snow and slush piling up outside, the annual Indian Student Association dinner continued with its multiple festivities.

International and local students, as well as community members, traversed through the weather to eat traditional Indian cuisine, watch various performances from Indian students and interact with fellow students Dec. 1 at the Student Union Ballroom.

The doors opened with medley solo performances by Kotyada Durga Sushmitha and Kattakola Nishika, followed by a presentation on the various Indian festivals celebrated.

For junior Caitlyn Bland, this was her first time experiencing the ISA dinner. She loves trying new things and learning about different cultures.

"I think it's really cool that our campus is so diverse, but I think it's up to us to go to different events and want to learn about other people's cultures," Bland said. "I think it's easy to get trapped in your bubble day-to-day... I feel like all these students come here and experience so much of our culture so it's really cool to learn about theirs."

After the presentation on Indian festivals such as Vinayaka Chavithi, Diwali and Dussehra, more medley group performances ensued along with a performance of "Cheliya Cheliya," a song from the Telugu movie "Gharshana," which was sung by student Sai Kiran Peddachappali.

Following the performances, the ISA initiated their new executive board members and showed their appreciation for their faculty advisor, SafeRide and others before showing their end of the year slideshow. Then came the lineup for the much-awaited food.

With 12 different Indian cuisines like vegan dish corn manchuriya, fan favorite chicken biryani and desserts like gajar halwa which was a sweet carrot mash, there were many options to choose from.

Bland said she had a hard time choosing one entree, so she tried a little of everything.

"Thanksgiving prepared me," Bland said.

The event concluded with more medley group performances.

While many people came for the food and culture, some came to say their last goodbyes since many international students will be graduating in December.

Graduate student of applied computer science Srinivas Pakala came for this exact reason.

"I'm going to miss everyone because I am going to be graduating from Northwest; so I just want to refresh everything," Pakala said. "I would like to see everyone for the last time and say goodbye. This is a goodbye thing for me."

The goal of the ISA has and always will be to "feel closer to home" for the international Indian students, but for many international students, they have made many friends at Northwest thus creating another home.

Previous President of the ISA Vipul Chandoor said he and the ISA members were very pleased with the outcome of the event.

"A few came up to us and said like, 'Please can you organize this with regular intervals like bi-monthly or once in three months,'" Chandoor said. "So this means to us that people are so happy, enjoyed it a lot and had a great time. If people are happy, we will be happy ... Even alumni gave some reviews saying that this is the best ISA dinner in the past few years, which made our day."

The ISA organization's dinner had 260 people show up.

THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat wants you to avoid the Union rush

Noon is the lunch rush hour. Avoid it if at all possible. Go an hour earlier or wait an hour.

There are so many people trying to eat at the same time that the line weaves back and forth to fill the entire entrance to the dining area.

For some reason unbeknownst to me, group tours decide to eat lunch at noon as well.

This clogs up the line, causing the workers to worry about 30

"Free Lunch" slips in the middle of swiping a bunch of Bearcat Cards.

There's always plenty of food at noon because the kitchen employees are prepared.

Still, there can be a deficiency in plates and tables. Forget sitting with your friends you were standing with in line. You won't be able to find the table they're sitting at.

Even if you do, there probably won't be a chair for you. Big groups like to collect them for their friends.

Dish return is the absolute worst at noon. Have you ever waited in line to put the dishes away? Me neither. Until I made the mistake of eating at noon one day.

The line moves fairly quickly, but by the time I can put my dishes up, all of the racks are full.

You might think I could put my plate on another plate, but no, I can't even do that. They all already have four or five plates on top of them.

Then when I find a smaller stack to put my plate on, the entire column wobbles and I risk having all the half-eaten sandwiches, unfinished drinks and leftover spaghetti sauce spilled all over me.

Just don't eat at noon. It will be so much easier that way. The later the better. If you eat at 3 or 4 p.m., the meal switches at 4:30 so you could stay and enjoy dinner right after, making one less trip to the Union in all this snowy weather.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.



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•Pho All-Day: \$5.95



Sophomore forward Emily Cassavaugh scored a career-high 15 points in the Spoofhounds’ first round match up against William Chrisman Nov. 27 in the Savannah Invitational.

WYATT BELL | NW MISSOURIAN

HISTORY
CONTINUED FROM A12

Last season Northwest finished ninth out of 12 teams at the MIAA Championships and Bush wants to start the season strong within the conference.

“Individually I’m expecting to put up a top 10 400 meter time for our conference,” Bush said. “For our 4-x-400, we’re hopefully going to get a 3:19.50 and win the overall meet as a team.”

As the men search for growth, the women’s team seeks to build off of last season’s success. Finishing third in the conference meet by slightly more than 10 points sets bigger goals for the 2018-2019 campaign.

Although just one season removed from the third-place finish Masters stressed simply repeating the results will be very difficult.

“We have lost a big group of ladies to graduation, a few left Northwest during the semester, and some just simply quit,” Master said. “Our roster is small but talented. A duplication of 3rd at the MIAAs, although possible, is a tall order. We do not currently have the depth.”

The development of Hammond will play a major role in the team’s overall success. After placing third in the 60-meter hurdles and fifth in the 400-meter dash during last year’s conference meet, she will have an increased role this season.

“Jordan has to do a lot for this team. Due to our depth issues, I will ask a lot of our ladies,” Masters said. “Jordan may be the one we lean on the most.”

Along with the increased leadership role, Hammond will face a new task this season as she shifts to her new role in the pentathlon. Consisting of the 60-meter hurdles, 800-meter run, long jump, high jump and shot put, the pentathlon tests an athlete in all areas of training.

Masters said moving Hammond to the pentathlon will be a process, and he is sure that she will thrive through the struggles.

“She (Hammond) is loving the opportunity to learn new events in the multi-events. She has come a long way, and I expect that she will still have some stumbles,” Masters said. “I know she will figure it out and put together a great score. Jordan is a fighter, and she will do great things this year, I have no doubt.”

The opening meet of the season will offer Hammond with an ease into the multi-event and allow her to adjust to the new events. Despite being new to the event, she still has the same expectations set for herself.

“For me personally, my biggest thing this meet is remembering that I’m new to the multi so I can’t get frustrated,” Hammond said. “As always, my expectations are high for myself because I know I’m capable of some great things in this sport and for the 400 (meter) on Saturday (Dec. 8). I’m just going to go compete and do what I’ve been training so far to do.”

SPORTS BRIEF

Tjeerdsma added to College Football Hall of Fame

Mel Tjeerdsma officially joined the list of college football’s best Tuesday night as one of the 12 newest members of the College Football Hall of Fame.

The National Football Foundation recognized Tjeerdsma and the 2018 induction class in New York City as part of the organization’s 61st annual awards dinner.

Tjeerdsma is most prominently known for establishing the culture Northwest football is known for today. The Bearcats lost each of their 11 games after Tjeerdsma’s arrival in 1994 from Austin College. Northwest earned its first of three NCAA Division II Championships under Tjeerdsma four years later.

He coached the Bearcats to 12 MIAA titles. He also re-

ceived the conference’s Coach of the Year honor 12 times. He was named as the national coach of the year four times.

Tjeerdsma retired from coaching in 2011 with 247 career victories (183 Northwest, 64 Austin College). He returned to Northwest as director of athletics in 2013.

As director of athletics, Tjeerdsma oversaw three more NCAA Division II football national championships (2013, 2015, 2016) and one NCAA Division II men’s basketball national championship (2016).

Planning and construction for the now completed Hughes Fieldhouse also occurred during Tjeerdsma’s tenure. He retired from the position April 30.

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consolation title

WYATT BELL
Chief Sports Reporter | @wyattbell5

Coming off a performance in which they were out-matched against William Chrisman Nov. 27, the Maryville Spoofhounds girls basketball team was able to bounce back to take fifth place in the Savannah Tournament Dec. 1 against the Savannah Savages.



The Spoofhounds (3-1) controlled the game from start to finish, defeating the Savages 67-52 in their opponent’s own gym. The ‘Hounds were led in scoring once again by sophomore Serena Sundell, who dropped 24 points despite attempts from the Savages to deny her the ball.

Sundell was joined in double-figure scoring by fellow sophomore Emily Cassavaugh, who scored a career-high 15 points, and senior Emma Baldwin who added 14 points of her own.

“I thought Saturday (Dec. 1) when we played for the consolation trophy, that was probably the basketball, definitely the best basketball we’ve played all year, and it might be the best complete basketball game that we’ve played since I’ve been here,” Maryville coach Quentin Albrecht said about his team’s performance against the Savages.

The Spoofhounds led by as many as 23 points in the fourth quarter before a small rally by Savannah towards the end of the contest led to a 15 point victory by the ‘Hounds. Despite the score being closer than the game actually was throughout, the victory against the rival Savages was a sweet success for Maryville and a big confidence boost in the midst of a seven-game stretch of road games.

“That game felt great. I think

NEXT GAME

Maryville vs Worth County
6 p.m. Dec. 7
Worth County

Emma (Baldwin) and I both talked to each other after the game and were like ‘Wow, that’s probably one of the best games we’ve ever played here,’” Maryville senior Kamryn Gastler said. “Savannah is always a really big rival, and recently they’ve been really good competition for us. We’ve usually gone 1-1 with them every season.”

According to Gastler, it was more than just any other win. This one was special for the Spoofhounds.

“To be able to go out and get that win for fifth place and kind of make a statement. We didn’t just win, we made a statement, so that felt really good,” Gastler said.

Maryville will now move forward with a string of road games coming up. Albrecht dubs his team “road warriors,” with no home game on the calendar until Dec. 20 when the Spoofhounds will play host to Savannah for a rematch.

“We’re road warriors right now. We’re used to that,” Albrecht said. “Traveling isn’t something I think that bothers us too much because we’re so used to it.”

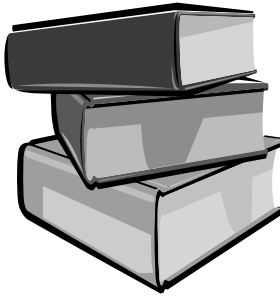
The Spoofhounds will set their sights on a date with the Worth County Tigers Dec. 7 in Grant City.

“I think we’ve just got to think of it as any other game,” Baldwin said of the upcoming matchup with Worth County.“

Just like Savannah,, I think a lot of us were nervous to play Savannah because it’s always a close game, but we just gotta come out, do what we know how to do, and then we’ll be alright.”

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Spirits strong ahead of MIAA play

TUCKER QUINN
Chief Reporter | @Tuck_Quinn

Northwest women’s basketball will look to continue its winning ways as it hosts Lincoln University Dec. 6.

After a convincing 67-48 victory over Nebraska Christian Dec. 1, the Bearcats (3-4) look to the direction of the Blue Tigers (6-0) in their first test of the young MIAA conference season. Lincoln has been unscathed by regular season competition and comes into Bearcat Arena as an overwhelming favorite.



“Our biggest goal will be defending the level of athleticism Lincoln presents, especially from the guard position,” coach Austin Meyer said. “Their transfer guard is very quick, very athletic, and we will have to do a good job of staying in front.”

Historically, Northwest has dominated its duels with Lincoln, convincingly controlling the all-time record of 37-7 against the Blue Tigers, with a 21-2 record in Bearcat Arena.

The addition of Division I transfer, junior guard Erika Schlosser from Fairfield University, has proved to be a very advantageous recruit for the Bearcats. Over the first seven games of the 2018 season, Schlosser has averaged 27.6 minutes played per game as well as shooting just under 52 percent from the floor.

The process of changing colleges can be a very challenging transition for some, but Schlosser has quickly found a new home at Northwest, specifically on the basketball court.

“Coach Meyer and the team have made it very easy for me and have been very welcoming,” Schlosser said. “This is basically a second family now for me.”

Schlosser has made her presence known on the court, scoring 6.1 points per game and being 11-of-23 from the three-point line. She

NEXT GAME

Northwest vs Lincoln
5:30 p.m. Dec. 6
Bearcat Arena

Northwest vs Lindenwood
1:30 p.m. Dec. 8
Bearcat Arena

is averaging 47 percent behind the arc and is classified as a knock-down shooter.

As the Bearcats enter the gauntlet that is MIAA basketball, they do so in a spot that is unfamiliar when compared to last year’s play. Northwest has already clinched three wins on the year, a feat that wasn’t accomplished until Feb. 1 of the 2017-2018 season.

While the Bearcats have had a taste of success to begin the young basketball season, Northwest has many aspects of the game that still need to be polished before taking on conference opponents.

“I think everyone knows how tough the league is considering Lincoln being 6-0 but being towards the bottom last year,” Meyer said. “It’s all just about getting better every day and controlling the things we can control.”

Meyer often talks about “the process” and staying true to this team and trusting each other. Unselfish play has been a point of emphasis within the game plan of the Bearcats, often taking advantage of an extra pass to get up a smart shot rather than wasting a possession. Stressing this can be a deciding factor when playing disciplined MIAA teams.

“I love being able to compete, especially with my teammates there, pushing each other to get better,” Schlosser said. “Coach Meyer has emphasized its all about the process and in the preseason it was just us playing each other, but now it’s just us trying to make each other better.”



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN
Guard Erika Schlosser, a junior transfer from Fairfield University, led the Bearcats in assists with nine Dec. 1 in Northwest’s 67-48 win over Nebraska Christian.

Maryville takes Savannah invitational championship

TRENT SPINNER
Chief Reporter | @trentspinner

With the Maryville boys basketball (4-1) roster at full strength, the Spoofhounds rolled through the Savannah tournament gaining ground on their team goal of 30 games.



Maryville took advantage of its first chance at tournament play at Savannah High School Nov. 28-Dec.1. Success was found with ease as the Spoofhounds dominated Chillicothe (62-39), Savannah (65-56) and Platte County (64-46) on their way to a first-place finish in the tournament for the first time since 2009.

The Spoofhounds played the part of victim in their first game of the season, but with a rejuvenated squad they are back on pace for their goals of playing 30 games. This newly energized team is brought to be successful through the three starters that weren’t with them in the first game.

“So far they have done that, despite not being in the greatest shape, they have played a tremen-

dous amount of minutes,” coach Matt Stoecklein said. “They’ve been doing a great job of just stepping in and doing just that.”

With a fresh restart to the season, the first place finish shows what talent Maryville brings to the courts. The squad could not have been completed at a better time with conference play up next in the schedule.

The Midland Empire Conference holds its own as being a tough, competitive league, and with Maryville at full strength, it only grows that much stronger.

“We want to go far,” junior Tate Oglesby said. “The first step of that is winning conference and to be able to do that we got to come out and do what we can immediately.”

The Spoofhounds got there first taste of MEC action Dec. 4, when they faced off against St. Joseph Benton. Maryville faced off against this conference rival last year with split results in two matchups.

“They really apply a lot of pressure,” Stoecklein said. “We don’t want them to push us back to half-court, we want to make sure that we run the offense that we want

NEXT GAME

Maryville vs Worth County
7:15 p.m. Dec. 7
Worth County

to run, and they don’t dictate to us what we do.”

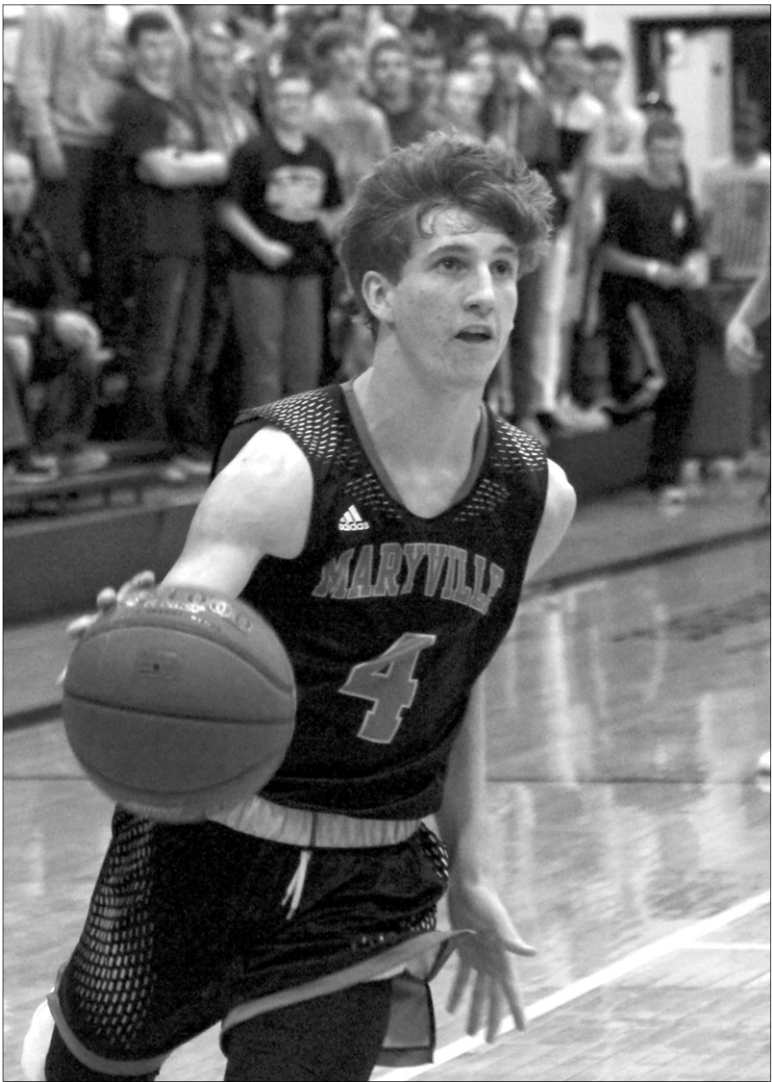
Maryville showed no sign of slowing down from the Savannah tournament as they handled Benton 57-42.

As the football transitioners continue to make an impact on the Spoofhounds, the effort put in the transition is easily underrated.

Going from one sport to another can be a difficult task, especially in a cardio-heavy basketball game. The three starters utilized their competitive edges to make the transition easier then it should have been.

“You got to get your mind different; it’s a whole different conditioning,” Oglesby said.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**



FILE PHOTO

Junior guard Tate Oglesby helped lead Maryville to its first Savannah Invitational championship since 2009.

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NW MEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA Standings

Overall MIAA	
Southwest Baptist.....	5-3
NORTHWEST.....	8-0
Missouri Southern.....	7-1
Pittsburg State.....	5-1
Washburn.....	5-1
Central Oklahoma.....	5-2
Northeastern State.....	5-2
Emporia State.....	4-2
Lincoln.....	4-2
Lindenwood.....	6-4
Fort Hays State.....	4-3
Missouri Western.....	5-4
Nebraska Kearney.....	3-3
Central Missouri.....	5-3

NABC Coaches Poll

Overall	
Bellarmino (Ky.).....	6-0
NORTHWEST.....	8-0
Indiana (Pa.).....	8-0
Saint Anselm (N.H.).....	6-0
Southern Nazarene.....	8-0
Valdosta State.....	7-0
West Texas A&M.....	10-1
West Liberty.....	6-1
Nova Southeastern	5-0
UC San Diego.....	7-1
Shippensburg.....	8-0
USC Aiken.....	7-0
Cal Poly Pomona.....	3-1
Bentley.....	7-0

NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA Standings

Overall MIAA	
Fort Hays State.....	7-0
Central Missouri.....	6-1
Central Oklahoma.....	7-0
Lincoln.....	6-0
Emporia State.....	6-1
Lindenwood.....	5-1
Pittsburg State.....	4-1
Missouri Southern.....	5-2
Missouri Western.....	4-2
NORTHWEST.....	3-4
Washburn.....	2-4
Northeastern State.....	2-5
Nebraska Kearney.....	5-3
Southwest Baptist.....	2-5

NW TRACK AND FIELD

Mel Tjeerdsma Classic Teams Competing

NORTHWEST.....
Avila University.....
Baker University.....
Benedictine College.....
Central Methodist University.....
Cloud City Community College.....
Missouri Western.....
Truman State.....
Park University.....
Washburn.....
William Jewell College.....
Columbia College.....
Nebraska Omaha.....
Upper Iowa.....

Expectations high for Koster's second year

GEORDON GUMM
Missourian Reporter | @Geordon97gumm

The Maryville wrestling program aims for success under second-year coach Kody Koster. With limited coaching experience Koster's draws from a lifetime of wrestling to balance things out.

An issue that plagued the roster last year was due to the lack of athletes for specific weight classes. An issue that could arise could be a lack of leadership amongst those on the team. This is due to the small number of upperclassmen, which proves that the team is quite inexperienced from an age standpoint.

For the athletes that are under-



classmen, even though they may not carry much experience, they will benefit from the experience of the coaching staff.

This is where Koster has great confidence in himself and his surrounding coaching staff to make up for the lack of experience on the team. He wrestled in college at Buena Vista University. Koster brings a special type of energy just when he talks about wrestling. He may very well be the spark plug that this team could need.

"After last season, we have a lot to prove," senior Jarrett Partridge said. "We lost some good leaders last year, but I know coach will have us ready to roll when the season starts up."

The passion Koster has for

wrestling is second to none.

"There is nothing that can replace that one-on-one matchup out there on the mat," Koster said. "All of the attention is on you out there, honestly it does not get any better than that."

Koster hid no excitement at the fact that the season is inching closer and closer. There is something that could be easily overlooked by many.

"What most people do not realize is the middle school has a wrestling program here as well," Koster said. "That helps a lot as a coach because you know that these underclassmen have already possibly been in a program that allowed them to learn some of the basics."

Koster wanted to make sure that

the program is getting all the attention it deserves. The thing that is so unique about having this program available before high school is giving these kids an opportunity to jump ahead of the curve.

The wrestling team was hindered last season due to the lack of athletes at different weight classes. Koster hopes to not have this dampen the team's ability to compete at tournaments and matches.

Although it appears as though Maryville will not have a heavy-weight, this marks the second year Maryville will not carry a heavy-weight. The only other weight class unaccounted for is 145, seeing as there are multiple people who can wrestle up or down a class.

The ultimate goal is for the

NEXT GAME

**Maryville @
Bedford and Lenox**
10 a.m. Dec. 8
Lenox High School

'Hounds to compete as a team and win as many matches as possible. Koster realizes that isn't always the case.

"As long as the kids are progressively improving their skills that is all I can ask for," Koster said.

In the end, the goal is to shape these kids into great young adults, even though we would not mind enjoying success together as a team.



JUNIOR GAVEN GRAY-WALKER WORKS ON TAKEDOWNS WITH ASSISTANT COACH TYLER HELM DURING PRACTICE NOV. 29.

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3V3	JANUARY 21	JANUARY 23
BADMINTON (SINGLES)	JANUARY 27	JANUARY 31
BASKETBALL (LEAGUE)	JANUARY 27	FEBRUARY 3 - 21
PING PONG (SINGLES)	FEBRUARY 4	FEBRUARY 6
NBA 2K	FEBRUARY 5	FEBRUARY 7
TEAM HANDBALL	FEBRUARY 10	FEBRUARY 12
MORTAL KOMBAT	FEBRUARY 10	FEBRUARY 13
CORNHOLE	FEBRUARY 17	FEBRUARY 20
RACQUETBALL (DOUBLES)	FEBRUARY 17	FEBRUARY 21
SOCCER (LEAGUE)	FEBRUARY 17	FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 14
TENNIS (SINGLES)	FEBRUARY 24	FEBRUARY 28
FIFA	MARCH 4	MARCH 5
PING PONG (DOUBLES)	MARCH 11	MARCH 14
BADMINTON (DOUBLES)	MARCH 18	MARCH 20
KICKBALL LEAGUE	MARCH 17	APRIL 1-18
TENNIS (DOUBLES)	APRIL 1	APRIL 3
EXTREME DODGEBALL	APRIL 7	APRIL 11
SAND VOLLEYBALL	APRIL 14	APRIL 16-17
INDOOR TRACK MEET	APRIL 7	APRIL 10
INDOOR CRICKET	APRIL 7	APRIL 16 - 18
SPIKE BALL	APRIL 21	APRIL 24



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9	10 Hanukkah Ends	11	12	13	14	15
Happy Finals Week!						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Festivus	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Begins + Bozong Day	27	28	29
30	31 New Years Eve + OmisoKa					

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History made

Records rewritten prior to Tjeerdsma Classic

JUSTIN QUICK
Sports Editor | @Jquick88

Northwest cross country junior Karim Achengli ended a 20-year drought with his performance at the NCAA Championships Dec. 1 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Achengli placed 38th out of 261 runners with a time of 33:25.1 in the 10,000-meter race. The time was more than three minutes off of his regional time of 30:04.6, but he still managed to secure All-American honors and became only the fifth Bearcat to do so for the men's team.

The last time the Northwest men saw an All-American runner was in 1997 as Robby Lane achieved the status. In that same year, two Bearcat women, Lindsey Borgstadt and Kathy Kearns, both claimed the honor as well.

Coaching a runner to All-American status in his first year is something coach Nick Gibson said reflects the success the team has had as a whole.

"I knew going into the season, in the back of my mind that he (Achengli) should be able to be an All-American," Gibson said. "This should be a turning stone in our program and moving forward. We've had one All-American, now this is the standard."

Despite the accomplishment for Achengli, the results were far from expectations heading into the meet. He posted the second fastest time throughout all regions during the central region meet but fell short in repeating those results.

A major factor in the race was the conditions of the course and the inability of Achengli to change out the spikes in his shoes to match those conditions. Gibson pointed out that he was essentially running mud-on-mud with the amount his shoes had picked up during the race.

The next step for both Achengli and the rest of the cross country team is continuing the growth they have made into indoor track and field season. While the majority of the team has been training for weeks for indoor, Achengli will need to make the transition quickly to maintain momentum.

"Karim is in really good shape," Gibson said. "The conditions of the course (at nationals) that wears on you, but he is strong enough and fit enough to handle it. He's had a light

NEXT GAME

Mel Tjeerdsma Classic
Dec. 7-8
Hughes Fieldhouse

week this week and has had a lot of time to recover to try and bounce back from the championships."

Part of the process in the transition is moving from a one event mindset to having multiple events to train for.

"As we move into track season, everyone starts to focus more on their individual events," sophomore Tucker Dahle said. "We get into smaller training groups to have specialized workouts so we can be better suited for different events, such as the 1500 (meter) up to the 5000 (meter)."

Historical beginning set for indoor track and field

For the first time in program history, Northwest indoor track and field prepares for a home meet as the Mel Tjeerdsma Classic Dec. 7-8 opens the first season under coach Brandon Masters.

The first step of Masters' inaugural season, referred to as "The Masters Plan" by junior runner Juwan Bush, will start with a challenge as 14 teams are expected to compete. With Missouri Western and Washburn both slated as a small test of MIAA competition, the meet will offer a gauge of where the team is at.

In the past, the Bearcats have begun the indoor season on road trips cutting into training time. This year that is no longer an issue.

"We feel way more prepared," Bush said. "We are running on a track that won't injure us or we won't have to modify the workout cause the curves are too sharp. I feel like the team is going to be at an advantage finally for indoor conference."

Previously, the Bearcats were confined to Lamkin with an undersized track that caused stress on training with sharp corners and a worn down surface. The new track allows Northwest to remove any limits on training.

With the new facility comes higher expectations for the Bearcats, particularly on the men's side.

SEE HISTORY | A9



SLIPPERY ROCK ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS | SUBMITTED

Junior Karim Achengli became the fifth All-American male cross country runner in Northwest history with his 38th place finish at the NCAA Championships Dec. 1 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Men set out for sixth-straight MIAA title

ANDREW WEGLEY
Assistant Sports Editor | @andrew_wegley21

With a slew of MIAA games on the horizon, Northwest men's basketball appears to be firing on all cylinders.



The No. 2 Bearcats (8-0) blew past Midland College 100-66 Dec. 1, winning their eighth consecutive game to start the season and their third in a row by more than 20 points. Northwest will be tested by two capable conference opponents this week, squaring off with Lincoln (4-2) Dec. 6 and Lindenwood (6-4) Dec. 8.

Northwest has won five consecutive MIAA regular season titles. Despite graduating four starters last spring, the team has remained elite through the season's first eight games.

The Bearcats rank No. 1 in the country in turnovers, averaging just 8.1 per game. They rank No. 1 in scoring margin, No. 4 in three-point percentage and have allowed the fewest points per game in the conference.

By every measure, Northwest is an elite team. Still, coach Ben McCollum remains modest in the assessment of his roster.

"I think their process is getting there," McCollum said of his players. "I think the results will just take care of themselves; you're either good enough or you're not. I think every year you have a chance to win (the MIAA). There's 19 (conference) games and you've got 19 opportunities to win. We've just got to compete and stick with that process."



MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior forward Joey Witthus is averaging 20.3 points per game and has helped lead the Bearcats to an 8-0 start.

The MIAA is historically a tightly contested basketball conference. The Bearcats are one of just two teams to ever win the conference regular season crown five times in a row. McCollum pointed to Northwest's resolve as a driving factor in its consistency.

"Everybody in our league has a lot of talent, but everybody in our league isn't mentally tough enough to go through that grind," McCollum said. "It's really about that mental toughness, that attitude. And

a lot of people say mental toughness is kicking the door down and fighting through fatigue. That's not really what it is, in my opinion, it's being in a good mood, really."

McCollum said that the coaching staff attempts to sharpen the team's mental toughness by throwing adversity at the Bearcats in practices, something they haven't had to deal with much in games this season. Northwest has dealt with a few nagging injuries so far, but since its season-opening 72-20

overtime win over Northern State, the team has won every game by double digits.

A large part of Northwest's success has been the dynamic play of senior guard Joey Witthus, the team's only returning starter from a season ago. Witthus, a transfer from Minnesota State, is one of four Bearcats averaging double digits in scoring this season.

Witthus, who was the youngest starter last season, has aged into a veteran and has been thrust into a

NEXT GAME

Northwest vs Lincoln
7:30 p.m. Dec. 6
Bearcat Arena

Northwest vs Lindenwood
3:30 p.m. Dec. 8
Bearcat Arena

leadership role. The senior has taken the new role in stride.

"I think the biggest way that I've grown is just trying to be a leader, and having those seniors last year show me what it takes to be a leader and how to be a leader has really helped men," Witthus said. "So I'm trying to do the same thing for some of the younger guys this year."

McCollum has both warned that wins can be deceiving and concurrently admitted Northwest's strong start has helped spur continued trust in the process. The young Bearcats will look to continue their winning ways as they begin their conference season Dec. 6 in Bearcat Arena.

"The younger guys, early on, always believe what I say because I've been there when we've won a lot doing it the way that we're preaching," McCollum said. "Until they actually see it happen, sometimes kids can't really trust you, and once they saw (the winning) happen, it was like, 'Oh, OK. The things he's making us do are actually helping us.'"